



Drought Information Statement for West Central & Southwest Florida

Valid November 25, 2023

Issued By: WFO Tampa Bay

Contact Information: sr-tbw.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated by Dec 2, 2023 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/tbw/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.

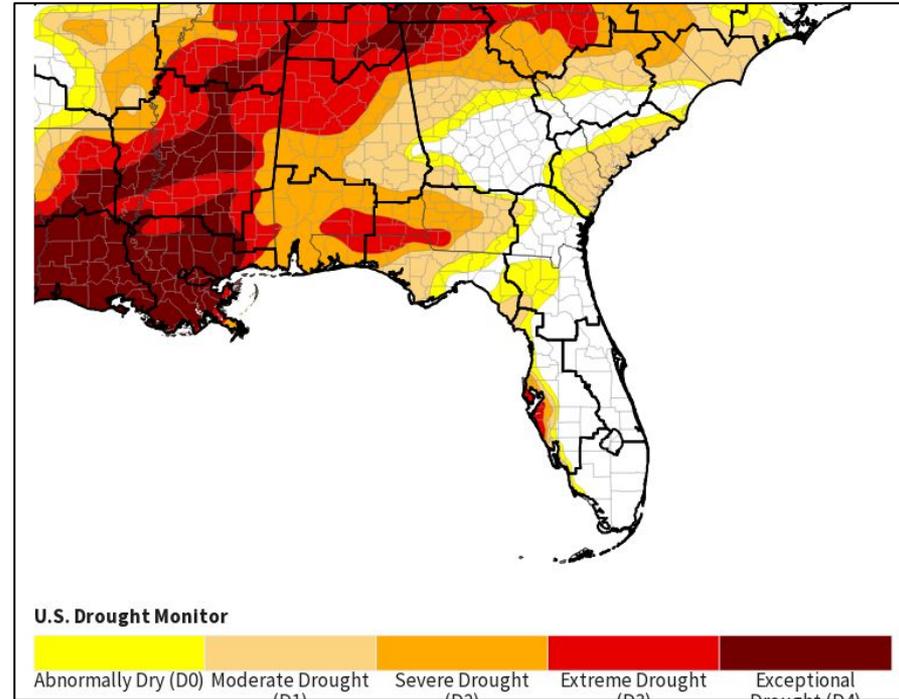




U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

- Drought conditions have been degrading over the southeast U.S. during the past several weeks.

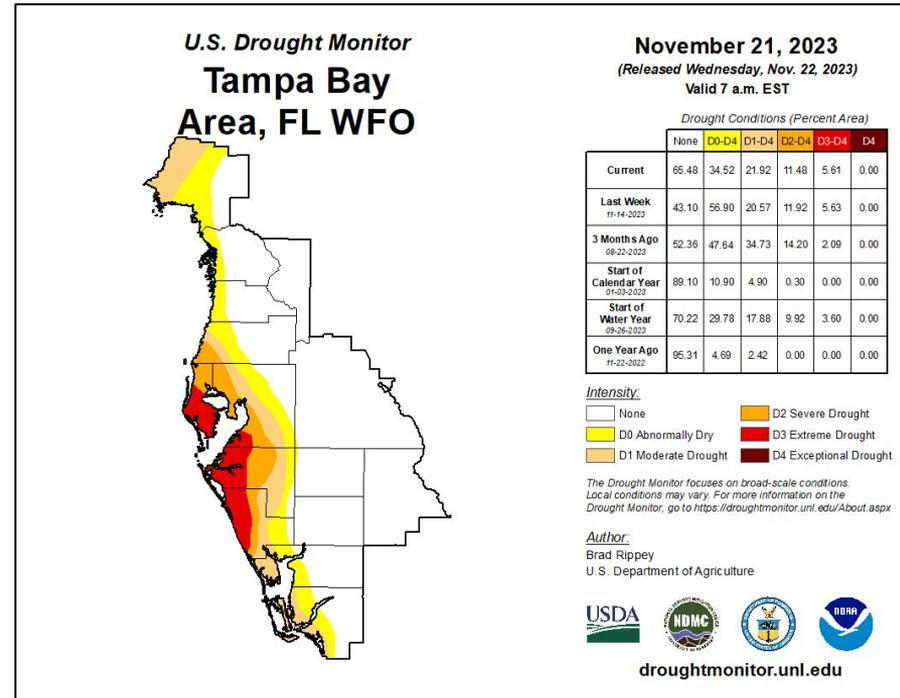




U.S. Drought Monitor for WFO Tampa Bay Area

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Florida

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: along the coast from central Pinellas county south through Manatee county into central Sarasota county.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: bounded the D3 area across southwest Pasco, northern Pinellas, southwestern Hillsborough, and inland portions of Manatee and Sarasota counties
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: extends from western Pasco county to eastern Manatee and Sarasota counties, and south along the coast of Charlotte and Lee counties. Also over northwest Levy county.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: extends across the coastal nature coast, and bounds the remaining D1 region to the south.

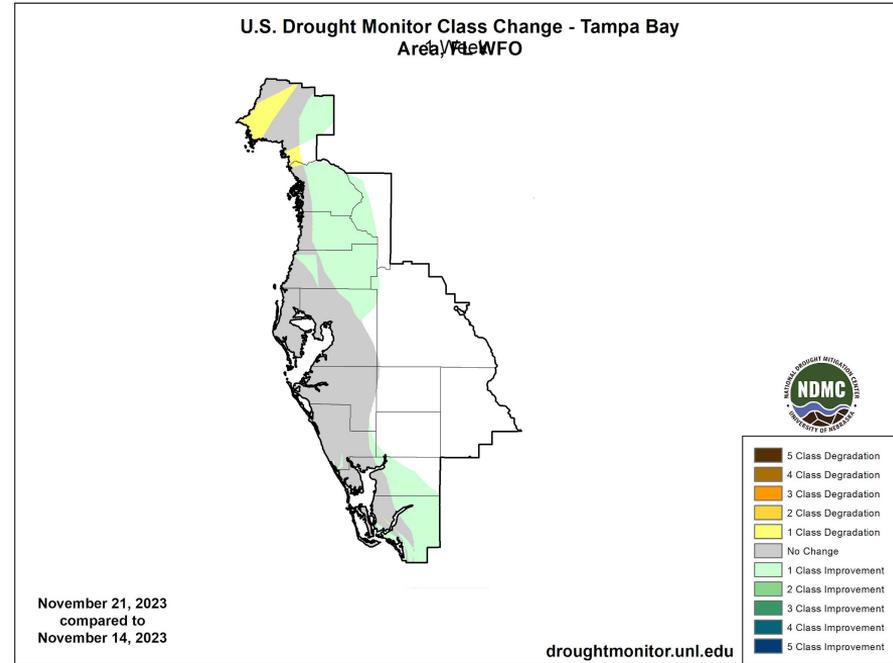




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [1-week change map](#) for Florida

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - In the last week, ending Tuesday November 21st, there was some improvement in drought conditions across the Nature Coast and southwest Florida.
 - With the recent rainfall, there is hope for some improvement next week. However, even with the recent rainfall areas near the coast from southwest Hillsborough southward through Manatee and Sarasota counties, they are continuing to see their driest year-to-date since records began.





Precipitation

Table of Accumulated Rainfall (inches) for Select Locations - January 1 to November 24, 2023

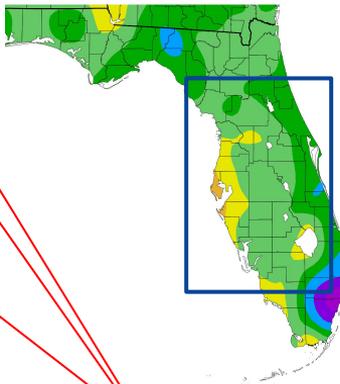
The following table gives the rainfall from January 1, 2023 to November 24, 2023:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Tampa Area	TPA:	31.51	46.60	-15.09	68%
St Pete/Clearwater	PIE:	*27.56	50.33	-22.77	55
St Petersburg Area	SPG:	29.82	43.96	-14.14	68%
NWS Ruskin	TBW:	29.99	50.62	-20.63	59%
Winter Haven Area	GIF:	43.32	43.12	+0.20	100
Sarasota-Bradenton Area	SRQ:	23.44	46.37	-22.93	51%
Fort Myers/Page Field	FMY:	**44.84	55.20	-10.36	81
Fort Myers/SW Intl Apt	RSW:	42.36	51.48	-9.12	82%
Chiefland 5 SE	CHIF1:	43.01	53.40	-10.39	81%
Plant City	PLCF1:	48.08	53.19	-5.11	90
Lakeland	LLDF1:	47.15	53.81	-6.66	88%
Bradenton 5 ESE	BRAF1:	40.58	53.71	-13.13	76%
Venice	VNCF1:	26.35	48.67	-22.32	54%
Archbold Bio Stn	ACHF1:	56.20	51.87	+4.33	108%

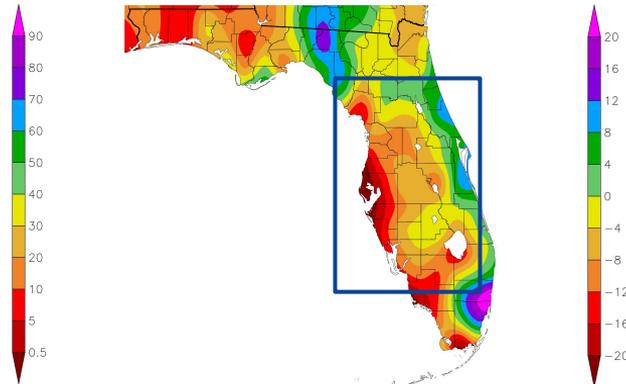
*Rainfall missing on August 20, 2023. Radar estimate of 0.50 inches included in this total

**Rainfall missing on June 2, 2023. Radar estimate of 1.90 inches included in this total

Precipitation (in)
1/1/2023 - 11/22/2023



Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
1/1/2023 - 11/22/2023



NWS Ruskin, Sarasota-Bradenton Area and Venice are continuing to have their Driest Year-to-Date!

The following table gives the rainfall from January 1, 2023 to October 31, 2023:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
St Leo	STLF1:	40.76	49.07	-8.31	83%
Bartow	BARF1:	43.75	47.23	-3.48	93%
Mountain Lake	LWLF1:	39.16	48.50	-9.34	81%
Wauchula 2 N	WAUF1:	38.37	47.91	-9.54	80%
Desoto City 8 SW	DSOF1:	55.04	48.47	+6.57	114%





Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- Due to the recent rainfall, rivers and streams south of I-4 have returned to near climatological normals. This will be short lived without additional rainfall. The Withlacoochee and Anclote rivers, along with Cypress Creek, continue to run in the lowest 15th percentile.

Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

- Water conservation techniques are strongly encouraged in drought areas. One day a week watering restrictions will go into effect for Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Pasco counties on Dec 1, 2023. Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information. Local water restriction ordinances may be in place.

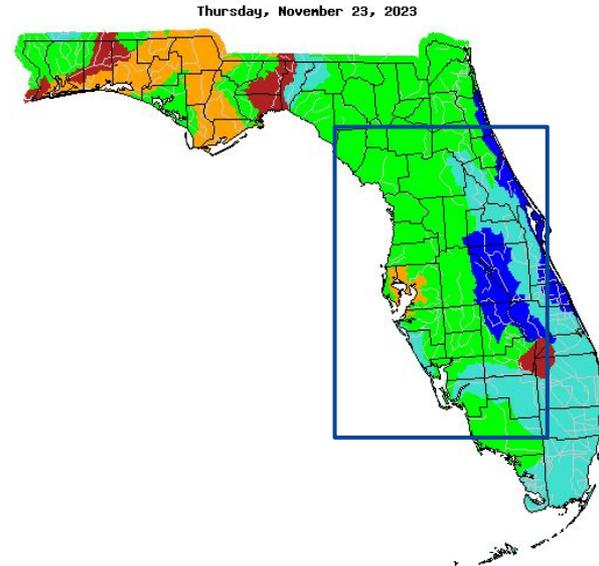




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid November 23, 2023

- Generally over an inch of rain fell across the region this past week with portions of southwest Florida and the interior nature coast receiving 2 to 5 inches of rain. This allowed rivers/creeks south of I-4 to recover, however streams to the north are still running in the lowest 15th percentile, for the most part.



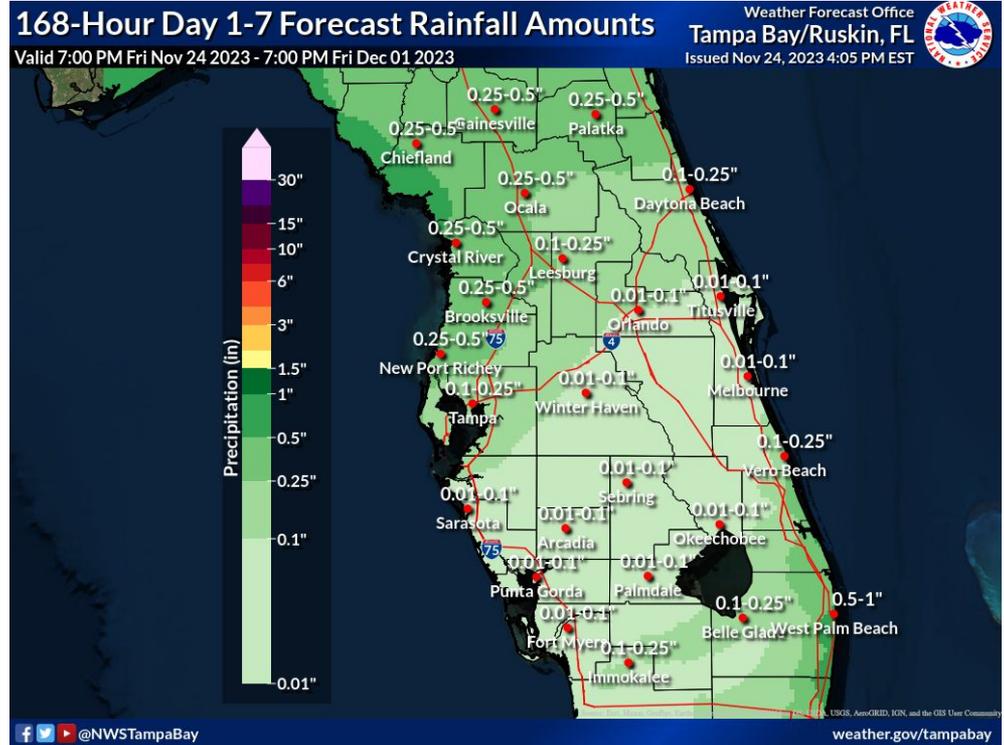
Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Rainfall during the next week is expected to range from near zero to about 0.50 inch across the region.

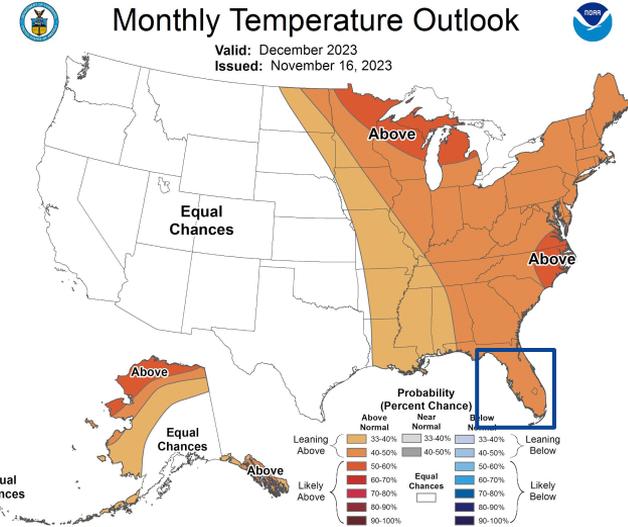
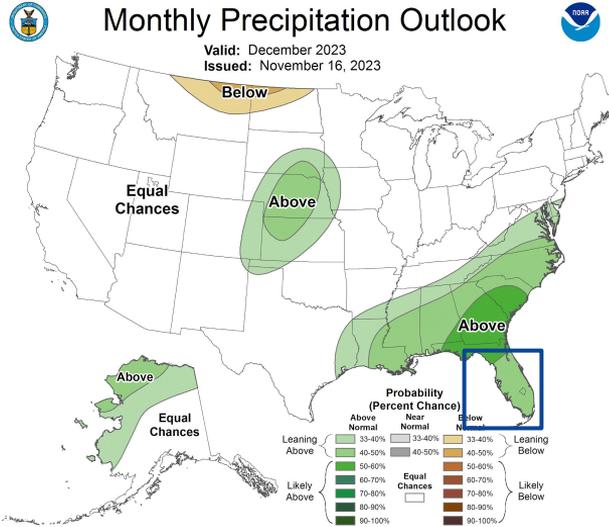




Long-Range Monthly Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Above normal temperatures and precipitation are favored for the Florida peninsula for the month of December.

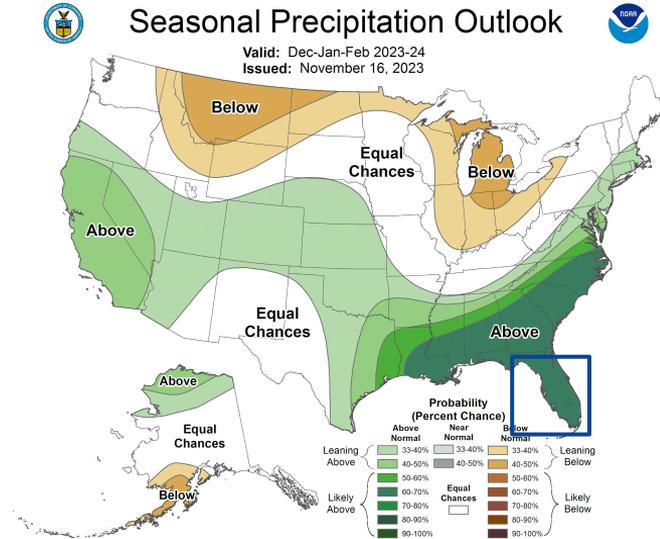
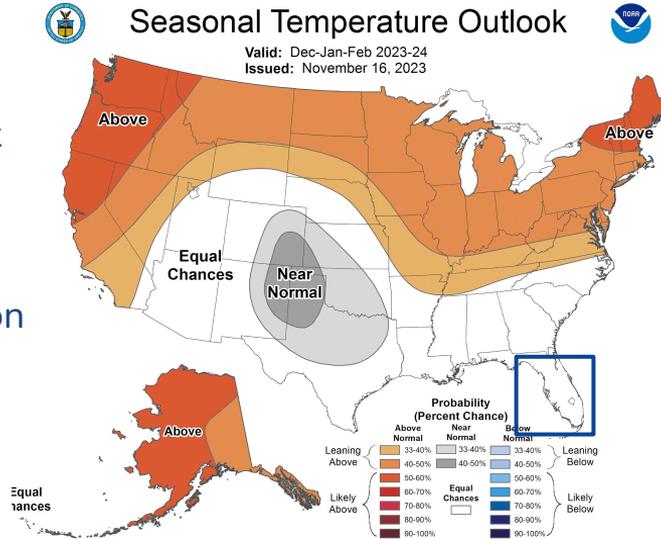




Long-Range Seasonal Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Equal chances of above, below, and near normal temperatures are forecast for December through February.
- Above normal precipitation is likely during December through February.

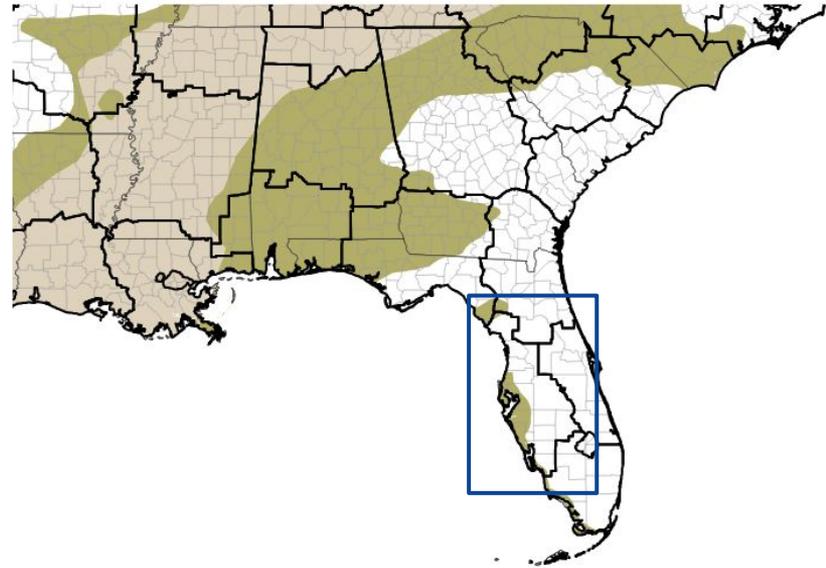




Drought Outlook

Seasonal Drought Outlook through February

- The outlook for wetter than normal weather during the upcoming winter should ease Drought conditions.



Drought Is Predicted To...



Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

